



#21 IDS
12/11/03

Attorney Docket No. 0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,862

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Kearney

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE
WITH SPRING LOADED JAWS

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P.O. Box 1450
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FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents is provided in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/032,378, which is relied upon for an earlier effective filing date of the present application under 35 U.S.C. 120, and accordingly is not enclosed.

No inference should be drawn that any method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

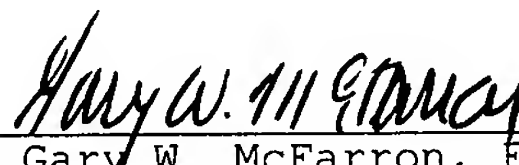
This Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either before the mailing of the first office action or after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final action or an action that closes prosecution. The cited information was first called to Applicant's attention either in an Office Action dated November 3, 2003 for a related application or in the results of a search of United States patents received not before October 27, 2003. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained

in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing of this information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), a fee under §1.17(p) is not required for the filling of this information disclosure. However, if it is determined that an additional fee is required, then authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account 50-1039 any additional fee required. (A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 4, 2003

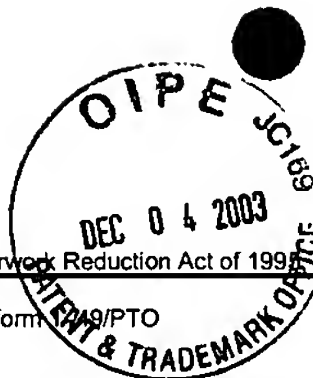
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Attorneys for Applicant



PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

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Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

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Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 5,323,781	06-28-1994	Ideker et al.	
	2	US- 5,500,012	03-19-1996	Brucker et al.	
	3	US- 5,876,398	03-02-1999	Mulier et al.	
	4	US- 5,891,138	04-06-1999	Tu et al.	
	5	US- 5,897,554	04-27-1999	Chia et al.	
	6	US- 6,033,402	03-07-2000	Tu et al.	
	7	US- 6,064,902	05-16-2000	Haissaguerre et al.	
	8	US- 6,068,653	05-30-2000	LaFontaine	
	9	US- 6,113,595	09-05-2000	Muntermann	
	10	US- 6,117,101	09-12-2000	Diederich et al.	
	11	US- 6,123,703	09-26-2000	Tu et al.	
	12	US- 6,142,994	11-7-2000	Swanson et al.	
	13	US- 6,156,033	12-05-2000	Tu et al.	
	14	US- 6,193,713	02-27-2001	Geistert et al.	
	15	US- 6,292,678	09-18-2001	Hall et al.	
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	17	US- 6,447,507	09-10-2002	Bednarek et al.	
	18	US- 6,474,340	11-05-2002	Vaska et al.	
	19	US- 6,488,678	12-03-2002	Sherman	

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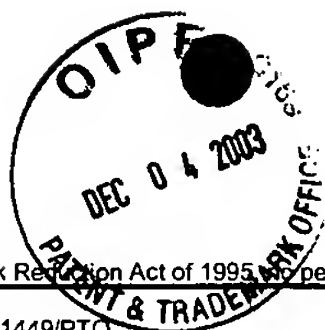
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Sheet

2

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	20	US- 6,506,189	01-14-2003	Rittman, III et al.	
	21	US- 6,575,969	05-10-2003	Rittman, III et al.	
	22	US- 6,610,055	08-26-2003	Swanson et al.	
	23	US- 6,632,222	10-14-2003	Edwards et al.	
	24	US- 6,334,860	01-01-2002	Dorn	
	25	US- 2002/0002329 A1	01-03-2002	Avitall	
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	28	US- 2002/0128643 A1	09-12-2002	Simpson et al.	
	29	US- 2002/0082595 A1	06-27-2002	Langberg et al.	
	30	US- 2002/0099364 A1	07-25-2002	Lalonde	
	31	US- 2003/0009094 A1	01-09-2003	Segner et al.	
	32	US- 2003/0028187 A1	02-06-2003	Vaska et al.	
	33	US- 2003/0060822 A1	03-27-2003	Schaer et al.	
	34	US- 2003/0069572 A1	04-10-2003	Wellman et al.	
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	38	US- 2003/0093104 A1	05-15-2003	Bonner et al.	

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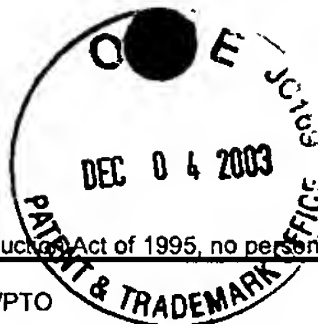
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	39	US- 2003/0097124 A1	05-22-2003	Lehmann et al.	
	40	US- 2003/0100895 A1	05-29-2003	Simpson et al.	
	41	US- 2003/0114844 A1	06-19-2003	Ormsby et al.	
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	48	US- 2003/0158548 A1	08-21-2003	Phan et al.	
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	50	US- 2003/0178032	9-25-2003	Ingle et al.	
	51	US- 2003/0050557	03-13-2003	Susil et al.	
	52	US- 5,125,928	06-30-1992	Parins et al.	
	53	US- 6,332,089	12-18-2001	Acker et al.	
	54	US- 6,540,740	04-01-2003	Lehmann et al.	
	55	US- 2002/0052602 A1	05-02-2002	Wang et al.	
	56	US- 2003/0045871 A1	03-06-2003	Jain et al.	
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